GRANITE.—Granite is supposed to be at once the most ancient and most abundant of all substances. It forms the base, and sometimes the whole mass of mountains of the Alps and Pyrenees, of Cornwall, Saxony, and Silesia, the Ural, and Altai, in Asia; the Atlas, in Africa; and the Andes, and Cordilleras, in South America. It is formed by a concretion of the granular particles of felspar, quartz, and mica, irregularly mingled, strongly adherent, and evidently the effect of simultaneous crystallization. The size, colour, and relative proportions of the particles differ greatly, but felspar, with a reddish tint, generally predominates. It is one of the hardest and most durable rocks known. Granite is much less metalliferous than any other of the primitive rocks; but it nevertheless yields tin and iron in considerable quantities; gold or silver rarely; but other metals commonly.

MUNIFICENT GIFT FOR CHURCH EXTENSION.—The agents of Sir J. W. Ramsden, at his half-yearly rent day at Huddersfield last week, announced that it was his intention to give the munificent sum of 8,000*l.* for the erection of four new churches and schools in the extensive parish of Huddersfield, with ground for the sites of the same.

IRON TRADE, MERTHYR.—By accounts from this district, we are sorry to learn that the prospects in trade are very gloomy. The present rate of wages is said to be maintained only at a decided loss to the masters.

NEW MANUFACTURE.—In the Westmoreland papers of last week is an advertisement of a marble-mason's, a Mr. Thomas Airey, in which he styles himself a "marble manufacturer!"

Tenders.

SIR,—I take this opportunity of correcting an error in No. 41 of THE BUILDER, in the account of tenders delivered for building three third-rate houses in William-street, Chalk-road, Islington, for Mr. Clayton, delivered Friday, Nov. 3rd, they were as follows:—

Lorne	£1,466
Dingle	1,197
McGill	1,100
Peck	985
Brighton	977
Dennis and Price	925

I have also another, though, perhaps, too trifling for insertion, but that I shall leave to your superior judgment.

TENDERS delivered Monday, November 13, for tuck pointing of front and flat jointing to back, front, and flank wall of a house in Blackfriars-road, for Mr. Miles:—

Bott	£72 19
Timson	35 0
Slade	31 16
Carter	29 0
Mr. Carter's tender was accepted.	J. H. S.

A Correspondent suggests that the general dimensions of the building would be useful in the case of comparing the amounts of contracts, and that those who furnish the lists of tenders would oblige many readers by adding such information.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

BOSTON CHURCH, LINCOLNSHIRE.—Repairs and restoration.—Mr. Scott, architect.—Messrs. White and Lindsay, Boston; J. T. White, Hon. Secretary. Nov. 27.

ST. OLAVES CHURCH.—RESTORATION.—Mr. George Allen, architect, 69, Tooley-street, Southwark; George R. Corner, Vestry Clerk. Nov. 28.

COMPETITIONS.

LONDON CEMETERY COMPANY.—Designs, &c. for two chapels, cost 6,000*l.*; premiums 100*l.* and 50*l.*—Charles Burls, Jun. Secretary, 15, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

Secretary to the Practical and Scientific Association for Pavements, &c., 20, Vere-street, Oxford-street.—J. W. G. Gutch, Secretary.

Earl of Leicester's Monument, at Holkham, cost 4,000 guineas.—R. N. Bacon, Hon. Secretary. Dec. 20.

District Surveyor for the metropolitan parishes of St. George-the-Martyr, and St. Andrew, Holborn-above-the-Bars, and the Liberty of the Rolls.—Testimonials to be sent in up to 30th December. Election next January Sessions.—C. H. Ellis, Clerk of the Peace.

Design for a testimonial to the late G. Cleodinning, Esq., to be executed at Westport, at a price of 800 guineas.—Dr. Dillon, Infirmary, Castlebar, Mayo. 20 guineas. Jan. 1, 1844.

Premium of a gold medal or money for the best mode of cleansing streets.—March 1, 1844. J. N. G. Gutch, 20, Vere-street.

NOTICES.

TO OUR READERS.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMEN.—*By an inadvertence, it was omitted to be expressed in the advertisement in last week's number of* THE BUILDER, *that country members are exempted from furnishing subscription drawings.*

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. L. T., Brecon," *next week.*

"Mr. Glegg."—*His paper has been forwarded as he requests. We shall be happy to have the promised return.*

"Senex" *was not deferred one moment by us, but the printer was compelled to exclude our note for want of space.*

"Knightsbridge."—*This is too bad. If he has a blush in him we could bring it up the deepest crimson; but it would be beneath us to retaliate. We hope he will raise himself above the repetition. We should be no true friend to him if we could think or act otherwise.*

"C. E. D., Bath."—*We are reminded by him of our delay; his communication is put in hand, but we have a great number; thanks to our active and generous correspondents, from which we are obliged now to select.*

"A Subscriber, Chipperfield."—*His school plan is to hand; if it appears, he must give us a little time, and the privilege of selecting from others. We thank him for his pains.*

"J. M., Middlesbro'."—*We shall refer to his paper, and make good the defect.*

"A Working Mason."—*We shall make use of his commendable paper.*

"A Leicester Subscriber."—*Would he oblige us with some sketch of the work he so much admires, to enable us to judge of the fairness of his encomiums.*

"Norman," Leamington.—*His pertinent letter on the Swiss style next week.*

"Mr. G. W. Aplin."—*His paper will appear at the first opportunity.*

"The Mining Journal."—*The matter complained of came before us in the pages of the Polytechnic Journal, and in a way that fully justified us at the time in dealing with it as we did. We are, however, very sorry to have unwittingly excited our contemporary's displeasure, and beg to inform our readers, now that we know it, that the article upon Mr. Andrew Smith's Steam Generator first appeared in the columns of the Mining Journal.*

SUMMARY OF CORRESPONDENCE.

TRURO MARKET COMPETITION.—"Senex" *is astonished that we should justify the successful competitors being allowed to explain their drawings to the corporators. He is wrong. We claim the same privilege for all successful or unsuccessful. He does not blame the architects for availing themselves of the opportunity to explain and set off their plans, but he thinks the corporation are liable to the charge of partiality; where is the difference between us?*

He states, that as in the several notices of the competitions, the heading "Truro Stannaries Hall, Town Hall, and Markets," would lead to the inference that there are two separate Halls, whereas the printed instructions to Architects only speak of "the Hall," it is calculated to excite a suspicion of some purposed ambiguity. Commenting on the letter of "A Young Chip," in our Journal of October 29th, he thinks some information could be afforded through his means as to the cause of delay in the selection of the designs; we shall be happy to be the means of throwing any new light upon the subject.

GUILDHALL, BRISTOL.—"A Constant Reader."—*We should hardly be justified in reporting his information upon anonymous authority. Thus far, however, we may say that he throws discredit on the whole affair, as far as Mr. Pope is concerned; he denies that there was any competition at all, and asserts that concerning a Dissenting chapel near Richmond Terrace, Bristol, and Mr. Pope's conduct in it as architect, which, if correct, is far from being to be approved of. We cannot, however, give our authority to this description of attack.*

"N. Hancock" *is pleased to see some attention paid to the comfort of that noble animal the horse. Referring to the communication of "Mr. Rex," he observes that he thinks the plan therein advocated would be too expensive for general adoption, and he proposes a pointed headed nail projecting, to be filed sharp on becoming dull. We may observe that it was omitted to be stated with "Mr. Rex's" description that he proposes to introduce India-rubber or felt between the two shoes, and by ease hardening the bottom shoe, making them also to one pattern, they would last longer, and could be screwed off and on by the groom. Hence would be avoided the too frequent cuttings and pariugs of the horse's hoof.*

"A Friend" *adverts to the successful employment of the Pauline Apparel in cases of fire, and recommends that all insurance agents should be provided with one by the head offices, and a fire escape, if not also with an engine. He urges besides the necessity of a more copious supply of water in the way of fountains &c., as we have ourselves advocated in imitation of New York. He says that by each parish paying a rental of an average of some 20*l.* per annum, this constant supply of water might, in all probability, be ensured.*

"H." *inquires whether there is any and what scale for determining the quantity of sawing in a square of timber framing—for example, when roof and floor framing is undertaken indiscriminately by the square, it is required to say how much sawing is to be regarded as the average quantity per square.*

"Odontalgia" *is thanked for his solicitude in our behalf. We trust there is no cause of apprehension as to falling between the two stools. High and low, however, are mere relative terms, and with the midway, we hope may be compassed by us and our goodly company of supporters. His remark anent foreign sources of information shall not be lost upon us. We have been longing some time to apply ourselves to them, but there is much to do midway still. What he says of the "deplorably defective" character of the architectural section of the Library of the British Museum has been long felt, and is a reproach to the nation. There is indeed an "enormous mass of actual rubbish;" but this we could bear, if there was the proper mass of sterling ore, and a proper registry to lead to it. Would that we could render an effective service in the remedy.*

"A Builder of the Olden Times" *joins issue with us in deprecating that "hawk-eyed" and suspicious spirit which he says is manifested in every district as well as in that of Worthing, and which, he regrets to say, the clergy are not the only remiss in tolerating, and the guilty in practising. We regret they should tolerate any thing like it, and that it should be as he says, that "masters in all branches of trade, to save themselves, are cutting down the labourers' wages in return." "How long," says he, "this wretched system will go on I know not; but that it must eventually recoil on the shoulders of the aristocracy is as certain as Mr. Elliott's bankruptcy."*

"Leonidas," Plymouth, *inquires whether there is at present any theatre, concert, or music hall now being erected in or near London; also who is the builder, the amount it is to cost, whether it was a public contract, and also inform him if there is any of the above-named places being repaired, and by whom?*

"A Subscriber," Newcastle, *asks us to state which is the most approved plan of warming and ventilating churches and other large buildings, and wishes the address of the parties. Really we are hardly in a condition to answer such a question. Our advertising columns should relieve us in this respect, but there are gentlemen who do not advertise with us. Mr. Sylvester, of London, and Mr. Hodes, of Trowbridge, were employed at the new Model Prison, and there are many others of great skill.*

"Mr. Thomas George" *thanks "P. T." for his design for a Swiss cottage, which came too late for his use; but he begs it to be understood that he had no unworthy selfish motive in asking for it, which we believe from his explanation, and owns upon consideration the propriety of the remarks of "A Citizen," and others. He hopes, however, it may not be converted into a bad precedent. His queries as to Somerset House we will reply to in our next.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DESTRUCTION of RATS and MICE WITHOUT ARSENIC.—The MUOPHOBON, which has received the approbation of the most celebrated Chemists in France for this desirable object, may be obtained, price 2s. 6d. and 5s. per box, of all respectable Druggists, and from S. TURNER, 57, Coventry-street, Haymarket.

EASE IN WALKING, COMFORT to the FEET, &c. Wellington-street, Strand, London. HALL & CO., SOLE PATENTEES of the PANNUS CORIUM, or Leather Cloth Boots and Shoes. These articles have borne the test and received the approbation of all who have worn them. Such as are troubled with Corns, Bunions, Gout, Chilblains, or Tenderness of Feet from any other cause, will find them the softest and most comfortable ever invented.

Hall and Co. particularly invite attention to their ELASTIC BOOTS; they supersede lacing or buttoning, are drawn on in an instant, and are a great support to the ankle.

The Patent India-Rubber Goloshes are light, durable, elastic, and waterproof; they thoroughly protect the feet from damp or cold.

Hall and Co.'s Portable Waterproof Dresses. This desirable article claims the attention of all who are exposed to the wet. Ladies' Carriage Cloaks, with Hoods, 10s. Gentlemen's Dresses, comprising Cape, Overalls, and Hood, 21s. The whole can be carried with convenience in the pocket.

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